



agriculture,
forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MARKETING AND CERTIFICATION WORKING GROUP

The Working Group (WG) has finalised the Terms of Reference (ToR) and also revised the Action Plan during their meeting on the 25th November 2013. The Key Focus Areas on the revised Action Plan are:

- Certification;
- Market trends and statistics;
- Updating and expansion of the market analysis; and
- Market access

The ToR includes the following key issues:

- Raising the profile of aquaculture in trade negotiations;
- Updating and expansion of the study;
- Investigate protection of the industry against unfair practices;
- Product development and value adding innovations;
- Development of a simplified brochure for statutory and non-statutory certification requirements; and
- Engage with WWF-SASSI during the updating of the lists.

It was suggested that there should be a holistic aquaculture certification scheme in order to move towards an integrated certification programme commissioned by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

LABOUR WORKING GROUP

The Terms of References (ToRs) for the Working Group (WG) has not been finalised, but the ToR will be tabled at the next WG meeting. The WG met with the role players at Hermanus and discussed the creation of the bargaining council in the industry. One of the key issue to be discussed during the next meeting will be about how to deal with other species as they cannot be combined with the abalone sector. It is recommended that the Chief Director: Aquaculture and Economic Development engage in labour issues within the aquaculture sector.

AQUACULTURE LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

The finalised report with recommendations from the service provider has been sent to the DAFF. The action plan is finalised and the Steering Committee is finalising the Terms of Reference for the development of the Aquaculture Bill. It is expected that the work will unfold during the beginning of the financial year and the process of the Bill might take 18-24 months.

NEMBA REGULATIONS - AIS

It was agreed during the workshop between the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the industry that the maps and the category of listed species will be revised and due to concerns raised about the criteria used to list the species as invasive, DEA appointed a group of experts to revise and revisit the maps. It is expected that the process might end in December 2013 and stakeholders will be consulted during January to March 2014.

ADEP APPLICATIONS UPDATE

To date the Department of Trade and Industry received 22 applications and 8 applications have been approved. 418 jobs will be created. Production of approximately 4 000 tons per annum from the 8 approved projects is expected.

APAP AQUACULTURE INTERVENTIONS

The Agriculture Policy Action Plan (APAP) identified aquaculture as the main priority in the fishery sector. It is therefore important for the sector to develop the Aquaculture Policy Action Plan at the same level as APAP. The identified key milestones for aquaculture during 2014/15 are as follows:

- A harmonized list of aquaculture species in the alien and invasive (AIS) regulations;
- Finalised business plan for Qolora Aquaculture Development Zone (ADZ) for implementation;
- Formalised Export Health Certification for Aquaculture products;
- Upgrade of the Turfloop Hatchery and the aquaculture nursery at the University of Limpopo (UL);
- Identification and establishment of new sites for trout production;
- Finalised business plan for East London Industrial Development Zone (EL-IDZ) Incubation project;
- Initiate an EIA for Saldahna Bay for Bivalve shellfish and Salmon;
- Establish Tilapia Sector-Specific Innovation project at UL; and
- Finalise allocation of abalone ranching rights to cooperatives in the Western Cape Province.

RECORDS OF DECISIONS

The following decisions were agreed upon during the meeting on the 04th December 2013:

- Marketing and Certification Working Group should discuss about the aquaculture certification scheme during their next meeting.
- Labour Working Group should table their ToR during the next AVCRT meeting.
- DEA will consult with the stakeholders about the revised maps and category of listed species during January to March 2014.
- Aquaculture Policy Action Plan should be developed in line with APAP.
- The development of the Aquaculture Bill will start during the next financial year (April 2014).
- The next sitting will be on the 08th of April 2014.

CONTACT US:

Roger Krohn:	Chairperson:	082 569 5985
Phina Baloyi:	Secretariat:	012 319 8066